



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

The ash and sugar-maple have borne an unusual abundance of fruit this season throughout all this region (Orange County, N. Y.) Has anyone noticed a similar fertility elsewhere?

Mountainville, N. Y.

W. E. STONE.

Botanical Notes.

Motion of Stamens in Centaurea.—At a recent meeting of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, Mr. Meehan called attention to fresh specimens of the flowers of *Centaurea Americana*, a native of Texas, which had been sent to him from Newport, accompanied by a letter from Miss Mary Powell, in which she describes a peculiar motion of the stamens. After describing and illustrating the structure of the flower in detail, the speaker remarked that if the point of the united stamens be touched, the pollen will begin to overflow and the pistil appear above the mass. If the pistil be now touched, the entire floret bends from side to side or makes a circular motion. Sometimes the motion will be communicated to other florets, which may bend in different directions. The *Centaurea* is closely allied to the thistles, and Mr. Meehan had found in all the species of the latter which he had examined the same kind of motion, although in our common field thistle it is quite feeble.

The irritability of the anthers had been partially described by Sachs and other German botanists, although none of them alludes to a movement of the entire floret. They believe the movement to be due to contractility, but the speaker suggested that some other mechanism is probably involved, as the motion is only to be observed when the pollen is present. If the latter be all brushed off the motion ceases.

Proceedings of the Torrey Club.—The regular meeting of the Club was held at Columbia College, Tuesday evening, April 10th. In the absence of the presiding officers, Mr. B. F. Braman occupied the chair. There were twenty-six persons present.

Field Committee.—The chairman appointed Messrs. Day, Rudkin and Hollick a committee on field excursions for the current year.

The Rev. A. B. Hervey, on invitation of the chair, made some remarks on the study of algæ.

Four persons were elected active members.

At the regular meeting held Tuesday evening, May 8th, the President occupied the chair and twenty-one persons were present.

Mr. Braman exhibited specimens of *Pistia spathulata*, Mx., from Florida. The President remarked that fossil specimens of this genus were found in the cretaceous rocks of Wyoming.

Mr. Britton showed specimens *Veronica hederæfolia*, L., and *Lithospermum arvense*, L., from a new locality, Kingsbridge, N. Y.

Mr. Bicknell showed specimens of *Carex Pennsylvanica*, Lam., and of *C. varia*, Muhl., which closely resembles it, and pointed out an important difference by which they may be distinguished, this being the presence in *C. Pennsylvanica* of long, spreading rootstocks by means of which plants covering a considerable area are connected. In *C. varia* these are not to be found.

One person was elected an active member.